

# TRIBE

Second Quarter 1999

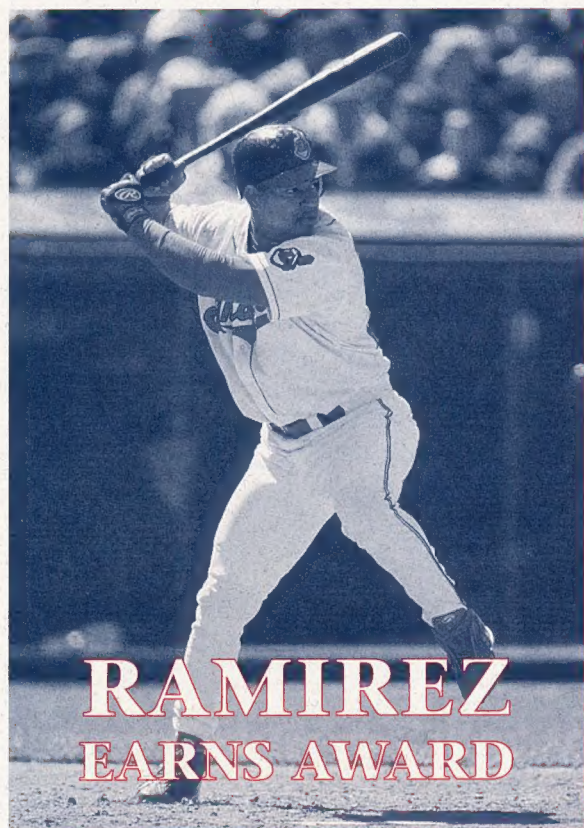


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Indians All-Star rightfielder, **Manny Ramirez**, was the recipient of the *1998 Gordon Cobbledick Golden Tomahawk Award*. The award was presented by **Hugh Morgan**, President of the *Wahoo Club*, in a pregame, on-field ceremony on April 14 before a game against Kansas City.

Since 1963, the Wahoo Club has presented this very special tribute, named in honor of former *PLAIN DEALER* Sportswriter **Gordon Cobbledick**, and given to the player selected by a vote of his teammates as the Tribe's *Most Valuable Player*.

In 1998, Ramirez hit .294, with 45 homers and 145 RBI in 150 games. Ramirez became the 36th recipient of this special recognition.

## More Good News . . .

**Manny Ramirez** was named *AL Player of the Month* for April. It was second time in his career for the honor, the first being in May of 1995.

## PLAYER NOTES

The Tribe began 1999 in red-hot fashion. This sparkling start is summarized through player-by-player stats for the month of April.

**2B ROBERTO ALOMAR** and Sandy Alomar are the 5th brother combination to play together in Indians history. After a slow start, Roberto hit .314 (27-86) with 4HR and 11 RBI. On April 30, Roberto scored career-run #1,000.

**CA SANDY ALOMAR** homered on April 14, his first home run since August 1 of last year. In April, the Indians were 9-3 in games that Sandy started and 8-0 when both of the Alomar brothers collected hits.

**LHP PAUL ASSENMACHER** currently ranks 18th on the all-time games pitched list. Paul needs eight more appearances to tie Roy Face for 17th place.

**RHP DAVE BURBA** struck out 10 batters in his first start of the season, a 9-1 win at Anaheim. Opponents hit just .212 off him. Dave finished April with a 3.03 ERA, striking out a team-high 33 batters.

**UTL JOLBERT CABRERA** scored the winning run, April 21, in a 5-4 come-from-behind win versus Oakland. Jolbert is still looking for his first Major League hit with Cleveland.

### RHP

#### BARTOLO

**COLON** won his third consecutive start versus Oakland, April 20. Bartolo ended April 3-1 with a 3.86 ERA. He struck out 28 batters.

**OF WILFREDO CORDERO** was signed as a free agent in the off season. He had a 10-game hitting streak (April 8-20). Wilfredo hit .319 (23-72) with 2HR and 11 RBI.

**RHP RICH DeLUCIA** was recalled from AAA Buffalo on April 24 to replace Jerry Spradlin, who was traded to San Francisco.

**CA EINAR DIAZ** started nine games behind the plate for the Indians in April. Einar hit .268 (11-41) with 6 2B, 3B, HR, and 7 RBI. He has not made an error in 76 total chances this season.

**3B TRAVIS FRYMAN** had a 10-game hitting streak snapped on April 20 versus Oakland. Travis hit a game-winning three-run HR in the tenth inning to win the Tribe's home opener. He is 20 shy of 200 career home runs.

*Continued, see PLAYER NOTES, page 3.*





# PLAYER NOTES

continued from page 1

**RHP DWIGHT GOODEN** is second among active pitchers with a winning percentage of .642 (185-103). Dwight has not lost since July 26, 1998 versus Detroit, winning his last five decisions. He recently authored an autobiography, with Bob Klapisch, titled *"Heat: My Life On and Off the Field."*

**OF DAVID JUSTICE** did not play, April 7-16, due to a strained left calf. David had a pinch hit game-tying HR on April 17, in which the Indians eventually lost 13-8 versus Minnesota.

**RHP MIKE JACKSON** collected his 100th career save, April 11, at Minnesota. Mike saved six games in April. His scoreless innings pitched streak ended at 24.2 IP vs. Minnesota on April 17th (G2) when he surrendered 4 runs on 1 hit in 1.1 innings pitched.

**RHP STEVE KARSAY** won his first Major League game since July 17, 1997 on April 10 at Minnesota in relief of Doc Gooden. Over his last nine outings, Steve is 3-0 with a 2.35 ERA.

**LHP MARK LANGSTON** was brought up April 12 from AAA Buffalo to replace Ricky Rincon on the 25-man roster. Mark made his Indians debut in the home opener and pitched 1.1 innings giving up only one hit. He is second behind Roger Clemens among active pitchers in strikeouts.

**OF KENNY LOFTON** is the Tribe's all-time stolen base leader. Kenny reached base via hit or walk in 21 of 22 games in April. Kenny led the league in hitting during April, with a .382 (34-89) average.

**LHP TOM MARTIN** was placed on the disabled list, April 4, and has yet to play in a game for the Indians this year.

**RHP CHARLES NAGY** allowed just one run in 7.2 innings April 17 in a 5-1 win over Minnesota — a game that took just 2:21 to play in the rain. Charles was 3-1 in April with a 3.54 ERA.

**OF MANNY RAMIREZ** hit 7HR in April, and his 83 homers at Jacobs Field are the most in the six-year history of the ballpark. He started the season with an 11-game hitting streak.

Manny hit .337 (33-98) in April and set a new franchise record by driving in 30 runs for the month. Including last year, he has 136 RBI over his last 115 games.

**RHP STEVE REED** won his first game of the year April 21 versus Oakland. Steve made a team high 12 appearances and finished April with a 1.59 ERA, allowing just 2 earned runs in 11.1 innings.

**LHP RICKY RINCON** was placed on the disabled list April 12 with soreness and swelling in the left elbow. Ricky has appeared in only two games this year.

**UTL RICHIE SEXSON** blasted a homer in the ninth inning on April 21 versus Oakland to tie the game at 4-4. He started 11 games, 10 at DH and one in left field.

**RHP PAUL SHUEY** did not allow a run in 9 of the 11 appearances and had a 2.13 ERA. Paul left the game, April 25, at Boston with a strained left hamstring.

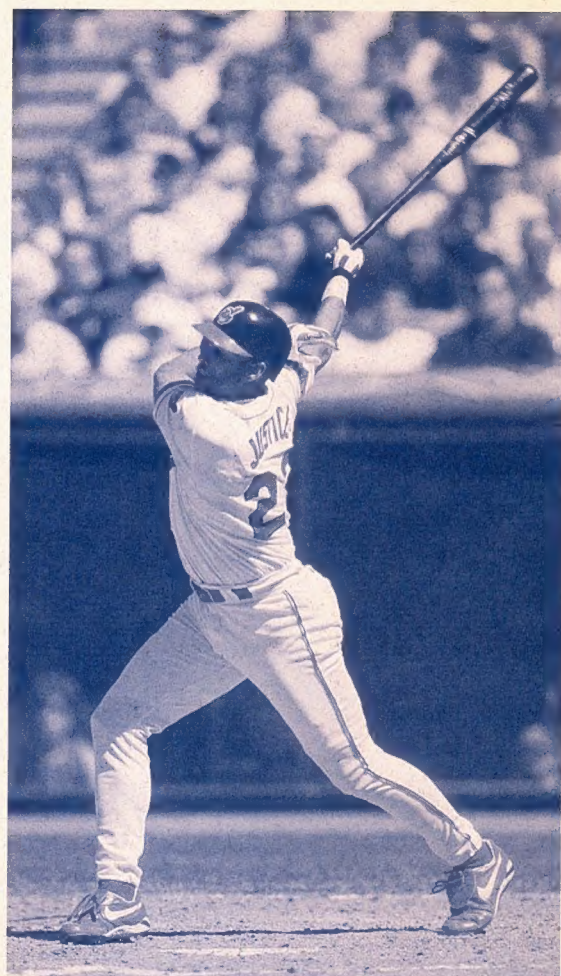


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

*After being sidelined by injury at the start of the season, David Justice made sure his return was noticed by banging out home runs at the plate.*

**1B JIM THOME** drew a team high 21 walks on his way to hitting .304 (24-79) with 4 HR and 13 RBI. Jim's 77 HR at Jacobs Field trail only Manny Ramirez for the most homers at the six-year-old ballpark.

**SS OMAR VIZQUEL** had a 42-game errorless streak snapped April 9 at Minnesota. Omar hit his first home run of the season during the season opener (he had 2 HR last year). His .981 fielding percentage is the highest in MLB history among active SS with at least 1000 games played.

**OF MARK WHITEN** was placed on the DL, March 31, with a stress fracture of the navicular bone in his right foot.

**UTL ENRIQUE WILSON** and his wife Leydis welcomed their first child, a baby girl (Melisa), March 8. Enrique started eight games in April, all at SS.

**RHP JARET WRIGHT** started five games in April and had a record of 2-0. Jaret struck out 18 while walking nine.



Have a burning question for **John Hart** or another member of the Indians front office? Have you been dying to know something about one of your favorite players or coaches? This year, you will have the opportunity to have your questions answered through **Indians 411**.

What is Indians 411? It's the new weekly TV show that will be broadcast every Saturday at noon on **Fox 8** in Cleveland. The show will feature game highlights, player interviews, inside-the-Tribe information, and much more.

Indians 411 is a Classic teleproduction presented by:

**THE PLAIN DEALER**